United Nations E/C.20/2012/11

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
11 June 2012

Original: English

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Second session
New York, 13-15 August 2012
Item 11 of the provisional agenda*
Special reports on regional and thematic activities

Special reports on regional and thematic activities

Note by the Secretary-General

The present paper summarizes the report[1] transmitted by the Secretary-General to the Committee on the regional and thematic activities of the following five entities: the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific, the Permanent Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas, the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology of the Economic Commission for Africa, EuroGeographics and the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies.

The report submitted by the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific describes the activities of the Permanent Committee's three working groups: (a) geodetic technologies and applications; (b) geospatial data management and services; and (c) spatially enabled Government and society. In addition, it describes the activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. The report also addresses the growing concern and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region on geospatial information management.

The report submitted by the Permanent Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Americas describes the Permanent Committee's activities related to: (a) institutional capacity-building; (b) standards and technical specifications; (c) best practices and guidelines for the development of spatial data infrastructures; (d) innovations in national geospatial information authorities; (e) knowledge gathering on topics relevant to spatial data infrastructures for the region; (f) assessment of the status of developments in spatial data infrastructures in the Americas; and

* E/C.20/2012/1.

[1] The full report is available in the language of submission only from http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html.

12-36899 (E) 270612

Please recycle

(g) technological means for discussion related to spatial data infrastructures. The report provides an overview of the progress of work under the seven thematic areas.

The report submitted by the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology of the Economic Commission for Africa describes the efforts to promote the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management in Africa through the Addis Ababa Declaration on Geospatial Information Management, which was adopted by a representative group of African geospatial information practitioners in August 2011. Central to the Declaration is the African Action Plan on Geospatial Information Management.

The report submitted by EuroGeographics describes the regional activities in Europe with regard to: (a) the development of a technical infrastructure to deliver, as the European Location Framework, national reference data; and (b) the support from national geospatial information authorities to the European Commission's disaster and emergency management service by providing access to their national reference data, as stipulated in an agreement signed with the European Environment Agency.

The report submitted by the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies addresses the issues identified by the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management working group on inventory of issues. It provides information on the support and input that the Joint Board, collaboratively through its member organizations, can offer regarding the issues identified.

The Committee is invited to take note of the five reports.